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**Jane Milburn** *B Ag Sc, Grad Cert (Aust Rural Leadership), GAICD*

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**Overview**

Jane Milburn is an accomplished media advisor and communicator with a proven record of effective advocacy for rural, health and professional groups. Jane’s extensive business, media and creative networks provide excellent linkages and outcomes for clients and contacts. Jane is an agricultural scientist, a fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, and recently completed postgraduate leadership study at James Cook University. Jane helped reactivate the Rural Press Club of Queensland as a leading agribusiness network and was awarded life membership in 2009.

Jane is the founder of [Textile Beat](http://www.textilebeat.com), an innovative enterprise that taps into growing interest in ethical and sustainable ways to reduce our clothing footprint. As with the rising interest in home cooking and food growing for health and wellbeing, Jane believes there is a pressing need to rethink our approach to textiles and fashion. In 2016, Jane is initiating The Slow Clothing Project which involves the creation of a collection of 40 handmade garments with stories from 40 different DIY makers using local, natural and sustainable processes. This follows the 2014 [Sew it Again](http://www.sewitagain.com/) project which bridged Jane’s memories of childhood, professional expertise, networks and a love of nature with a desire to raise awareness about clothing waste. In 2015, Jane presented 42 workshops and 22 talks on slow clothing to various groups in eastern Australia. Jane values authenticity, individuality and purpose. She demonstrates flexible, innovative thinking, as well as enthusiasm and commitment to all tasks she undertakes.

**Career highlights**

**Recognised leadership**

* eight years in executive roles at the Rural Press Club, including as president 2006-2008
* graduate of Australian Rural Leadership Program on Fairfax Agricultural Media scholarship
* developed and implemented the award-winning Sew it Again project in 2014

**Effective advocacy**

* led the media advocacy campaign for dentists to achieve water fluoridation in Queensland
* led the public awareness campaign to highlight risks of Philippines’ banana imports
* developed Health Media Club concept and 612 ABC Swap It campaign for preventive health

**Quality writing**

* published lead paper in the Home Economics Journal of Australia (Vol 22, No1, 2015)
* published in magazines such as The Walkley Magazine, OUTBACK and Smart Farmer
* developed sustainable food blog Food Farming Australia in 2010

**Key skills**

Strategic communications

Public speaking

Project planning and implementation

Writing and editing

Social media

Community engagement

**Awards and recognition**

­­2015 – Excellence in Rural Journalism Awards, Social Media category winner, Sew it Again project

2010 – RIRDC Rural Women’s Award, Queensland runner-up

2010 – Mort Johnston Professional Development Scholarship

2009 – Fairfax Agricultural Media open scholarship for the Australian Rural Leadership Program

2007 – Queensland Media Awards, Excellence in Rural Reporting, finalist

2005 – Queensland Primary Industries Awards Media Award, winner

2005 – Queensland Primary Industries Awards Industry Communication Award, finalist

**Education**

* Graduate Certificate of Australian Rural Leadership at James Cook University 2013
* Fellow of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation 2010
* Australian Institute of Company Directors - full course, exam and assignment 2012
* Australian Institute of Company Directors - foundations course 2010
* Bachelor of Agricultural Science, University of Queensland (nee Lindy Jane Capon) 1979

**Affiliations**

* Fashion Revolution Day Australia and New Zealand – committee member
* Australian Textile Art and Surface Design Association – Queensland workshop coordinator
* Rural Press Club of Queensland – life member
* Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance – member
* Australian Institute of Company Directors – non-financial member

**Career summary**

**Board roles**

2011-current **International House Board** honorary secretary

2009-2010 **Australian Council of Agricultural Journalists** vice-president

2006-2008 **Rural Press Club of Queensland Inc** president

2000-2005 **Rural Press Club of Queensland Inc** vice president/secretary

2004-2005 **Primary Industries Week Inc** treasurer

**Work roles**

**2013-present** founder **Textile Beat**, upcycler and natural fibre champion

**2010-2012** communications manager **Diabetes Queensland**

**2007-2010** communications manager **AgForce Queensland**

**2002-present** principal consultant **Milburn Media and Marketing**

**prior to 2001** media advisor, ABC rural reporter, print journalism, public relations